



DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE

OFFICE OF THE CHIEF OF STAFF

WASHINGTON, DC

JAN 04 2005

MEMORANDUM FOR SEE DISTRIBUTION

FROM: HQ USAF/CV
1670 Air Force Pentagon
Washington, DC 20330-1670

SUBJECT: Policy Changes to Air Force Influenza Management Program

Our nation and the DoD have done an admirable job of getting scarce flu vaccine to those who needed it and in securing additional supplies of flu vaccine. In light of low demand and growing supplies of flu vaccine, the Assistant Secretary of Defense, Health Affairs has relaxed restrictions on the use of flu vaccine for DoD beneficiaries and recommended total force vaccination with FluMist, the intra-nasal vaccine.

This memorandum authorizes resumption of total force military influenza vaccination. FluMist will be used wherever possible. Commanders will work with their medics to begin vaccinating our active duty force as soon as possible. Deployers will remain first priority and must be vaccinated at least three weeks before deploying. At locations where FluMist is not available, injectable vaccine will be used.

The available lot of FluMist vaccine expires 8 Feb 05. Commanders and medics will make every effort to maximize vaccination of all Airmen before this date. Vaccination efforts for the total force should continue until vaccine supplies are unavailable or until the total force is vaccinated. The Air Force Medical Support Agency (AFMSA) will continue to manage influenza vaccine supplies and distribution to support this goal.

The Preventive Health Assessment and Individual Medical Readiness (PIMR) software program has been adjusted to reflect each member's influenza immunization status without affecting unit readiness rates. However, Commanders and Unit Health Monitors will work with their medics to ensure maximal flu vaccination of the force. Commanders' personal attention is critical to maximizing vaccination rates, reducing lost duty time and maintaining our operational capabilities.

My point of contact for the Influenza Program is Col Arne Hasselquist, HQ USAF/SGOP, 110 Luke Avenue, Room 400, Bolling AFB, DC 20032-7050, DSN 297-4268, e-mail: arne.hasselquist@pentagon.af.mil

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "T. Michael Moseley".

T. MICHAEL MOSELEY
General, USAF
Vice Chief of Staff

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